Ursuline’s small, personalized setting is ideal for students interested in pre-law. Students who desire to enter law school after they complete the baccalaureate degree are advised to select a major with a strong liberal arts foundation. Ursuline College offers pre-law students choices from a variety of academic majors such as English, History and Philosophy. The chosen major is taken in concert with our core curriculum, the Ursuline Studies Program. The major and the core curriculum, while focusing on content, also emphasize the importance of critical thinking, communications (reading, writing, listening and speaking), values and social responsibility. In addition, a Pre-Law concentration remains available within the Political Science major. Beyond coursework, the Pre-Law Program also offers Law School Admission Test preparation, special events and other opportunities and resources to help prepare a student for law school and life as a lawyer.

In sum, the Pre-Law Program at Ursuline College is not a major; rather it is a program that advises students on a major and other courses in preparation for a career in law.

Program Goals
The Pre-Law program at Ursuline seeks to develop students who will successfully enter law school, who will succeed in law school, and who will go on to become competent, ethical attorneys. The Pre-Law program at Ursuline was developed under the guidance of a panel of practicing attorneys from many areas of law, including private practice, the government and academia.

The field of law is very competitive and students wishing to enter law school must actively seek to develop strong skills that will help to distinguish them from other candidates. The cornerstone of the Pre-Law program is the Ursuline Studies core curriculum, which serves as an excellent preparation for law school as it seeks to develop qualities in students that will enable them to do the following:

• Analyze and Synthesize
• Respond to Beauty
• Communicate Effectively
• Solve Problems
• Interact Socially
• Take Responsibility for Society
• Make Decisions Based on Values

Students pursuing Pre-Law at Ursuline can major in a variety of programs, among them such traditional paths to law school such as English, History or Philosophy. This allows the student to develop a depth of knowledge about some particular subject area. In addition, the program seeks to encourage students to develop skills and areas of knowledge that will help them succeed in law school such as:

• Knowledge of ethics and how values are manifested in society
• Knowledge of grammar and the ability to write clearly and concisely
• Knowledge of history and the ability to research the role the law played in its unfolding
• Knowledge of logic and the ability to use reason to solve difficulties
• Knowledge of rhetoric and the ability to craft a persuasive argument

Program Requirements
The Pre-Law program recommends a series of courses which will assist students in acquiring these skills and areas of knowledge. These courses may fulfill requirements in the core curriculum, within a major or serve as an elective. All would assist a student in preparing for law school. Such courses include, but are not limited to:

• Advanced Expository Writing
• American Political Philosophy
• Fundamental Principles of Morality
• Introduction to Statistics
• Logic
• Principles of Chemistry
• Social and Cultural History of the United States
• Social Problems

Though Pre-Law students have a variety of majors, the Pre-Law Coordinator typically serves as their advisor, and will direct students to the available courses that will serve them best in their preparation for law school and the lawyerly life. Students interested in the Pre-Law program should contact the Pre-Law Coordinator for more information.